



Go Connect – for hosts

Who can be a host?

Anyone. The most important thing is that you have an interest in meeting people from other parts of the world, and that you take pleasure in sharing their culture and traditions with visitors.

I don't have that much spare time – can I still take part?

Yes – Go Connect is completely flexible. Your commitment can be limited to meeting up with the student(s) for a cup of coffee or a shopping trip. It's important that you are clear from the start about your availability so that students won't be disappointed. The students themselves may also be busy with their studies so flexibility is encouraged.

How will I meet my student(s)?

Edinburgh Global hosts informal networking events for this. When an event is coming up, we will email you in advance with detailed information. Should you rather not take part in an event, we can also arrange meetings informally.

Can you suggest any activities?

This is something that you and your student(s) should decide together once you have met, but there are plenty of fun (and sometimes free) activities around Edinburgh. For ideas, try the [This is Edinburgh](#) website.

Who pays for activities?

We have no set rules for this, and it's something that should be decided amongst yourselves. We do advise students that hosts are not expected to pay for all activities, and we trust that this issue will be approached by both parts in a fair manner.

What if I need to contact someone about Go Connect?

Remember that some students might be shy at first as this may be their first experience outside their home country – this is normal and should only be temporary. While students are very enthusiastic about the scheme, they can sometimes struggle to make time to meet you because of their studies or other commitments. If you haven't heard from your student for a while or would like assistance, please feel free to get in touch with our team: isas@ed.ac.uk

What other hosts have said to us:

“We have enjoyed taking part each year. We see it as a two way process. It gives us an insight into another culture and we hope it gives the students an insight into ours. We also hope they enjoy visiting our home and experiencing Scottish dishes as well as being able to ask about anything!”

“The hospitality scheme is a great way to get a direct insight to student life, and give a new international student informal support. It was fun to share some of the best bits of our city, as well as gaining more understanding of a different culture. I would definitely recommend the scheme, the commitment is only as much as you want to make it.”
